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Chris Nelson
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Fellow South Dakotans:

It is my honor to dedicate the 2005 South Dakota Legislative Manual to the men and women of the South Dakota National Guard, their families and their employers.

The Legislative Manual, commonly known as the Blue Book, is a comprehensive reference source on state government that is published every two years according to South Dakota Codified Law. It contains information on elected state officials, judges, legislators, local and state government administration, a chronology of South Dakota history, and election statistics.

I am often asked why the name "Blue Book". The term dates back to the fifteenth century when the English Parliament began keeping its records in large volumes covered with blue velvet. Since that time the name Blue Book has been used to describe many forms of government manuals.

I'm sure you will enjoy this interesting and educational volume!

Sincerely,

Chris Nelson
Secretary of State